

Bronx River Basin, Westchester & Bronx Counties, New York Ecosystem Restoration Study

As of: February 2012

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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DESCRIPTION

The study area occupies approximately 55 square miles in central and lower Westchester County and Bronx County of the City of New York. The communities lying wholly or partly in the watershed include the Towns of North Castle, Scarsdale, Mount Pleasant, and Greenburgh, the Cities of Yonkers, White Plains, and Mount Vernon, and the central part of Bronx County. Local communities throughout the Bronx River Basin have suffered flooding and environmental degradation as a result of storm events. These storm events produce flooding, riverbank erosion, and habitat loss. The degraded environment has an adverse effect on the general well-being of the watershed.

AUTHORIZATION: The study of the Bronx River Basin, Westchester and Bronx Counties, New York, is authorized by the U.S. House of Representatives Resolution 2551 adopted March 24, 1998.

STATUS: A Feasibility Study Cost-Sharing Agreement [FCSA] was executed between the Corps of Engineers, New York City Department of Environmental Protection [NYCDEP], and Westchester County in November 2003. The 2003 FCSA study costs were estimated at approximately \$4,490,000 at a 50-50 cost share [Federal 50% and Non-Federal 50%].

A programmatic assessment of the Bronx River watershed is currently being developed to evaluate spin-off or fast-track sites, in order to demonstrate that projects are being implemented in a logical manner.

For Fiscal Year 2012, the focus of the feasibility study includes, 1] continued site specific assessment of existing conditions and ecological baseline establishment, 2] the development of a process model for generic measures and screening, which includes target and threshold levels for success criteria and 3] the consensus from the Non-Federal Sponsors and USACE's North Atlantic Division and Headquarters on the path forward to complete the Feasibility Report. The following steps in the feasibility study would include the screening and prioritization of sites and corresponding measures, in terms of their relative abilities to provide restoration improvement. Feasibility level design work of at least two [2] of the identified sites in the Westchester and Bronx Counties are expected to be incorporated into the study.

STUDY COST:

Federal Non-Federal [Westchester] Non-Federal [NYCDEP]

Feasibility Phase \$ 2,494,998* \$ 864,324 \$ 1,380,674

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CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS: Congressional Districts: NY-07, NY-16, NY-18

^{*} This value also includes \$250,000 for an Independent External Peer Review of the Feasibility Report at 100% Federal Expense.